Docket No. (AMENDED): 23558-0015 Application No. 09/856,859

Page 2 of 6

IN THE CLAIMS

1-14 (Cancelled)

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(Currently amended) A plurality of carriers on which a plurality of different compounds can be synthesized, including comprising a population of detectably distinct carriers wherein each carrier is suitable for providing a base for a sequence of reaction steps, each carrier having a code, which distinctively identifies a respective carrier before, during and after said synthesis from other carriers, and which is characterized by at least two detectable and/or quantifiable attributes integrally associated with the carrier, wherein individual carriers comprise all the attributes that define a corresponding code before commencing synthesis of a respective compound thereon, and wherein the population of detectably distinct carriers constitutes at least about 70% of the plurality of carriers, wherein one of said attributes is not shape, or surface deformation(s) of the carrier.

- 16. (Original) The plurality of carriers of claim 15, wherein at least one of said attributes of a respective carrier is comprised within or internally of the carrier.
- 17. (Original) The plurality of carrier of claim 15, wherein at least one of said attributes of a respective carrier is an electromagnetic radiation-related attribute.
- 18. (Original) The plurality of carriers of claim 17, wherein the electromagnetic radiation-related attribute is selected from the group consisting of fluorescence emission, luminescence, phosphorescence, infrared radiation, electromagnetic scattering including light and X-ray scattering, light transmittance, light absorbance and electrical impedance.
- 19. (Original) The plurality of carriers of claim 17, wherein the electromagnetic radiation-related attribute is a light emitting, light transmitting or light absorbing attribute detectable by illuminating the carrier with incident light of one or more selected wavelengths or of one or more selected vectors.
- 20. (Original) The plurality of carriers of claim 15, wherein a respective carrier has at least three detectable and/or quantifiable attributes integrally associated therewith.